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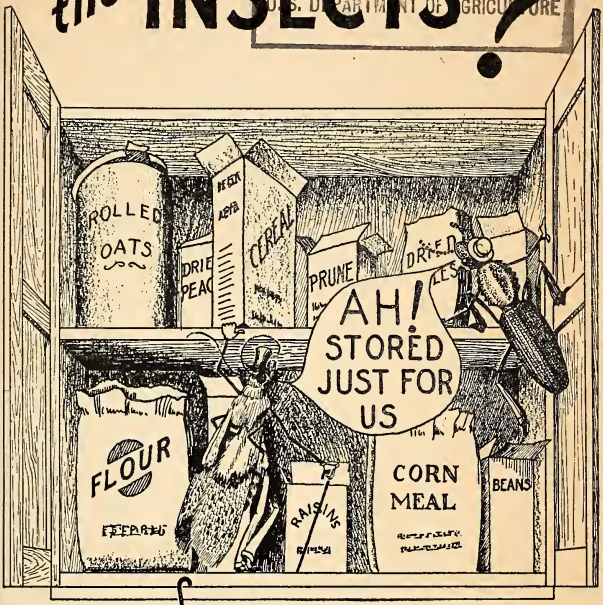
# WHY FEED the INSECTS?

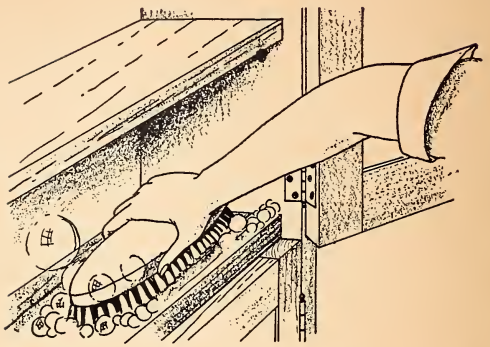



# PROTECT the dried FOODS in your home

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Extension Service and Bureau of Entomology
and Plant Quarantine, cooperating

AWI–64 GPO 16—36587–1 August 1943

## CLEAN TO PREVENT INSECTS



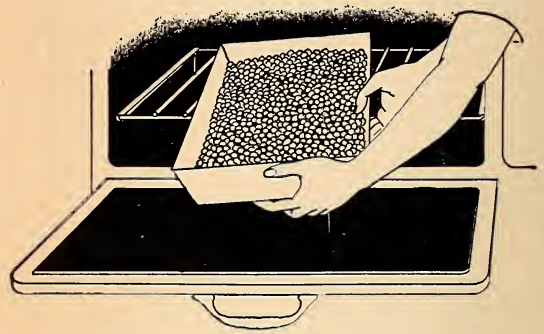
The few crumbs that may escape the most careful housewife may support insect life. With a stiff brush and strong, soapy water, scrub the cupboard and pantry where crumbs of bread, cake, cereal, nut meats, etc., are apt to lodge. Repeat each month.

## KILL INSECTS AND THEIR EGGS WITH BOILING WATER

Place loose dried prunes and home-dried fruits in a small cheesecloth bag or other porous container and dip into boiling water for 6 seconds. Dry thoroughly and place in a tight container. Sulfur-treated fruits will turn dark.

## TREAT WITH DRY HEAT

Packaged foods may be heat-treated in their original containers, sealed or open. See directions below.



Beans, whole grains, dried peppers, nut meats, etc., to be treated, should be spread in a shallow pan and placed in an oven at 150° F. for 20 minutes. To keep the oven from getting too hot, prop the door open a few inches. Unless in tight containers, food to be kept for long periods should be treated once each month.

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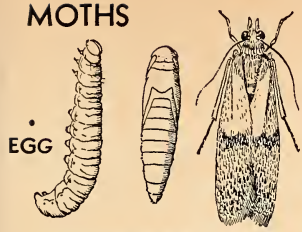
# SOME PANTRY INSECTS

## MOTHS




The Indian meal moth in its larval stage is one common moth pest. It feeds readily on cereals and dried fruits. When full-grown, the larva changes to a pupa and later emerges as an adult to lay more eggs.

## BEETLES

Several kinds of small reddish-brown beetles and their larvae feed on cereals and dried fruits. In warm pantries and cupboards they reproduce continuously, as do all pantry pests.

## WEEVILS

Bean weevil larvae feeding inside the bean cut little, round holes to the surface. The rice weevil and granary weevil feed much the same way on whole kernels of grain, but will also feed on breakfast cereals.

■ ■ ■

*Pantry pests should not be confused with clothes moths.*

# HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FOOD

CLEAN . . all cereals, crumbs, and fragments of fruit from cracks in pantry or cupboard shelves.

USE . . open packages of cereals and dried fruit before opening more.

TRANSFER . . contents of open packages to be held any length of time to tight containers (screw-top jars, etc.).

HEAT-TREAT . . dry foods to prevent insect infestations. Heat kills insects and their eggs. Repeat treatment each month.

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